

Laboratory Safety Rules

The safety of the individual while participating in science laboratory sessions is of prime importance. It is the policy of the Science Department of Wachusett Regional High School to require safe attire and behavior for participation in classrooms where laboratory procedures are in progress. *These rules are required of students, teachers, and visitors to the lab.*

1. Never work in the lab unless an instructor is present and aware that you are performing an experiment.
2. Prepare for the lab activity by reading and discussing the lab first. Ask any questions necessary for your full understanding. Make notes of any cautions or additional instructions given.
3. Dress appropriately for the lab. Avoid wearing bulky, loose clothing, dangling jewelry, or open toed shoes or sandals. Hats must be removed and long hair is to be tied back.
4. Keep the work area free of books and materials that are not needed during the lab.
5. Massachusetts State Law requires the wearing of approved safety eye wear (even if you wear glasses) when working in the laboratory. This is non-negotiable.
6. Laboratory behavior must be of a serious nature, and students are expected to work only with their lab partner.
7. Know the location of all safety equipment including eye wash, emergency shower, fire blanket, fire extinguisher, and first aid kit.
8. Use the apparatus only as instructed in the text or by the instructor.
9. Should any glassware break or chemicals spill, inform the instructor immediately! *Do not try to clean it up yourself.*
10. Do not touch anything that may be hot, including Bunsen burners, hot plates, ring stands, beakers, etc. Use the appropriate holder; tongs, test tube clamp.
11. Never taste, eat, or drink anything in the lab!! Gum chewing is not permitted.
12. Never put your face near the mouth of a container that is holding chemicals or is being heated. When testing for odors, use a wafting motion to direct the odors to your nose.
13. Always wash your hands at the end of the lab period.

Failure to follow these rules will result in the removal from class and a zero on the lab assignment. There will be no opportunity to make the grade up.